

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 04298 061234Z

ACTION DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 L-03 /027 W

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O P 061207Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6041

DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 4298

DOT/FHWA FOR W.S. MENDENHALL

KUWAIT FOR LOUIS MAC DONALD, FHWA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, ELTN, SU

SUBJECT: ROADS AND BRIDGES PUBLIC CORPORATION (RBPC) AGREEMENT

REF: A. STATE 274924, B. STATE 275148

1. EMBASSY REP AND MCKENDRICK FHWA MET TODAY DEC 6, WITH TOP FOUR OFFICERS OF RBPC TO FURTHER NEGOTIATE RBPC/FHWA AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.

2. FROM THE OUTSET IT WAS CLEAR THAT RBPC AND FHWA WERE POLES APART IN CONCEPT. RBPC WAS LOOKING FOR A NARROW PROJECT IN MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS ALONE WHILE FHWA ENVISIONED A BROAD PROJECT WITH SERVICES IN ORGANIZATION, CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE, CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN AT THE BEGINNING WITH OTHER DISCIPLINES BEING ADDED AT A LATER DATE. RBPC WOULD CONSIDER FHWA EMPLOYEES THE SAME AS ANY OTHER CONTRACTOR OR CONSULTANT EMPLOYEES WHILE FHWA PROPOSED THAT THEIR EMPLOYEES BE ATTACHED TO AMERICAN EMBASSY WITH PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF LIKE GRADE EMBASSY PERSONNEL.

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3. RBPC CONCEPT IS ONE THAT WAS DISCARDED IN JANUARY 1977 IN DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. FAROUK NASSER IN KUWAIT.

4. FHWA PROPOSED AGREEMENT IS SIMILAR TO CURRENT AGREEMENTS IN KUWAIT AND SAUDI ARABIA.

5. AFTER AN HOUR OF DISCUSSION IT WAS CLEAR THAT NEGOTIATIONS

WERE AT AN IMPASS. MCKENDRICK ADVISED CHAIRMAN HABBOUD
AND HIS ASSOCIATES THAT FHWA COULD NOT SEND FHWA
PERSONNEL TO SUDAN UNDER TERMS OF RBPC CONCEPT, I.E.,
MAINTENANCE ONLY WITH FHWA STAFF MEMBERS BEING PLACED IN
CHAIN OF COMMAND AND WITHOUT ANY PRIVILEGES OR IMMUNITY.

6. PLEASE PASS TO DR. FAROUK NASSER. EMBASSY WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS HE MAY WISH TO MAKE.

7. MCKENDRICK RETURNING TO WASHINGTON ON SCHEDULE.
BERGUS

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Message Attributes

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